(c) if so, the details of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Government has consistently maintained that the NPT is a discriminatory Treaty which creates a permanent division between the nuclear weapons powers and all other countries.

(b) and (c) In 1988, India tabled the Action Plan for Ushering in a Nuclear Weapon Free and Non-Violent World Order in the Conference on Disarmament as document No. CD|859. However, progress has not been possible because of a lack of consensus on these proposals.

ISI Activities through Nepal

1313. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of ISI which is operating from Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Nepal to check its activities and if so, when and what is the reaction the Government of Nepal in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The Government of India are aware of the use of Nepalese territory for transit by terrorists, who are suspected of having links with Pakistan Intelligence agencies. This matter has also been raised with the appropriate authorities in Nepal. The Government of Nepal have assured Government of India that they will not permit the use of Nepal's territory for terrorist activities against India. The Government of India welome this assurance and look forward to continued co-operation from the Nepalese authorities.

US Pressure for Signing of NPT

1314. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Administration has been insisting upon the Government of India to sign and accept the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty; if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a proposal has been recently made by Ms. Robin Raphel, asking India to sign a bilateral agreement with Pakistan in which both parties would undertake not to produce any nuclear fissile material outside the regime on international safeguards; if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the Delhi Declaration discouraged such piecemeal and discriminatory treaties for their inability to contribute towards making the world nuclear weapons free; and

(d) how the current proposals of the US Administration are viewed in the light of the stands taken by subsequent regimes in India, so far, on nuclear non-proliferation issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) The US Administration has not insisted that India should sign the NPT. However, as a depository State of the Treaty, the US regularly makes statements urging non-signatories to join the NPT. Government has consistently maintained that it is opposed to signing the NPT in its present form.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government has stated that there is no question of India unilaterally stopping the production of fissile material; Government is committed to the conclusion of a Convention on the prohibition of the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes which is multilaterally negotiated, universal, non-discriminatory and effectively verifiable.

(c) and (d) The Delhi declaration of 1986 outlines a set of principles for a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world. India remains committed to these principles. India has proposed a global approach and a universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory non-proliferation regime, linked to the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, to serve as the basis for a new international consensus on this issue.

Publication of Fake photograph by Amnesty International

1315. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the publication of a photograph by the Human Rights Organisation in London, depicting a grieving Kashmiri woman at a mazar, when it is of a Tamil woman praying at a mazar and relasing of the Ammesty International report on Jammu and Kashmir coinciding with the UN Human Rights conference in Geneva; and

(b) if so, what is is the reaction of the Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government's interaction with Amnesty International has been in keeping with its policy of transparency and dialogue. However, persisting distortions in Amnesty's methodology and their reports have raised a number of questions. Government of India has taken these up with Amnesty International and has also apprised the international community.

Visit of Chinese Vice-President

1316. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese Vice-President and Foreign Minister visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any agreements were signed during the visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any discussions regarding implementation of the agreement on maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the line of actual control were held;

(f) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;

(g) whether Government showed their concern about supply of Chinese arms to Pakistan; and

(h) if so, the response of Chinese Foreign Minister thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (h) Chinese Vice Premier and Foreign Minister, Qian Qichen visited India from July 17-19, 1994. During the visit the two sides discussed a wide range of issues, including improvement and consolidation of bilateral relations, the international situation and India-China cooperation in multilateral and other fora. During the discussions the two sides stressed the importance of Border Peace and Tranquility Agreement and agreed to work towards turning India China border areas into areas of friendship and to open further points for border trade between the two countries. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the progress and forward movement in bilateral relations and felt that this process should continue while differences are gradually resolved.

An Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation was signed during the visit. The Agreement is expected to facilitate investment and technology flow between India and China. The development of economic and trade linkages with China will contribute meaningfully to the improvement of bilaeral relations.